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IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace all claims in the instant application with the listing below amending claims 1, 8-10, 25, 29, and 34-36 and canceling claim 7 as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:
  - 2
  - 3 a plurality of core fibers forming a ~~said lifting~~ sling body;
  - 4
  - 5 a coating comprised of at least an isocyanate mixed with an amine forming
  - 6 polyurea;
  - 7
  - 8 a safety core bonded by said coating proximate to said plurality of core fibers,
  - 9 ends of said safety core are concealed within said coating;
  - 10
  - 11 said coating further comprising:
    - 12
    - 13 an initial layer of said coating that seals said plurality of core fibers from
    - 14 exposure to contaminants;
    - 15
    - 16 a plurality of additional layers applied to areas of said ~~lifting~~ sling body
    - 17 subject to high crush and shear forces; and
    - 18
    - 19 a final splatter layer of said coating applied along said ~~lifting~~ sling body,
    - 20 said final splatter layer creating a rugged textured non-slip grip exterior
    - 21 surface.
    - 22

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1 2. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating is selected from the group consisting of a polyurea elastomer, or a hybrid  
3 polyurethane – polyurea elastomer.

1 3. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating has an operational temperature range of –40 to 175 degrees Celsius.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating has a tensile strength in the range of up to 6,500 pounds per square inch, an  
3 elongation range of up to 300 percent, and a tear resistance in the range of up to 600  
4 pounds per linear inch.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating includes at least one of the following additives:

- 3  
4 i) a catalyst;  
5 ii) a stabilizer;  
6 iii) a pigment;  
7 iv) a fire retardant;  
8 v) a static electricity reducing additive;  
9 vi) an ultraviolet filtering additive; or  
10 vii) a thermal cycling additive.

11  
1 6. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 plurality of core fibers include at least one of the following:

- 3  
4 i) nylon;

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- 5 ii) polyester;
- 6 iii) a synthetic fiber;
- 7 iv) polypropylene;
- 8 v) wire rope;
- 9 vi) steel core;
- 10 vii) cordage rope;
- 11 viii) yarn;
- 12 ix) NOMAX;
- 13 x) KEVLAR; or
- 14 xi) chain.

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1 7. (Canceled)

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1 8. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said  
2 safety core traverses said lifting sling.

3

1 9. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said  
2 safety core is located, with respect to said plurality of core fibers, in at least one of the  
3 following locations:

4

- 5 i) seam located;
- 6 ii) perimeter located; or
- 7 iii) centrally located.

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1 10. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said  
2 safety core is interconnected with at least one of the following:

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